Review of the laws relating to violence against women

923. SHRI PRAMOD MAHAJAN:
SHRI VIREN J. SHAH:

Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have received any proposal from the National Commission of Women for the establishment of special courts to try crimes against women;

(b) if so, what are the details thereof;

(c) what is the present number of cases relating to the crimes against women pending in the country (State-wise) and what steps Government have taken for speedy disposal of such cases within a time limit; and

(d) whether Government have reviewed the existing laws relating to violence against women and what steps Govenment propose to take to amend existing laws for protection of women against violence?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SYED SIBTEY RAZI): (a) and (b) No such proposal has been received from the National Commission of Women.

(c) and (d) The total number of cases relating to crimes against women is given in the Annexure. *[See Appendix 175, Annexure No.* 22]. No statistics are available regarding the cases of crime against women pending in the country. The Government of India have initiated a number of measures to check such crimes. The Dowry Prohibition Act (1961) was amended in 1984 and 1986 to make the law more stringent. The Indian Penal Code, the Criminal Procedure Code, 1973 and the Indian Evidence Act, 1872 have been amended to deal effectively not only with dowry death but also cruelty on married women. Instructions/guidelines have also been issued from time to time to the State Government/Union Territory Administrations to effectively enforce legislation relating to crimes against women.

Fresh financial bids for basic telephone services

924. SHRI PRAMOD MAHAJAN:
SHRI VIREN J. SHAH:

Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any proposal under Government's consideration to invite fresh financial bids for 10 out of the 20 service areas in the, nation-wide basic telephone tenders;

(b) if so, what are the details in this regard and the reasons for inviting fresh bids;

(c) what are the details of bids with the names of companies from whom bids were received in the first round and the reasons for non-acceptance of bids in each case;

(d) what are the details of areas/circles in respect of which fresh bids are proposed to be invited;

(e) what will be the position of companies which have already submitted their bids and incurred huge expenditure on the preparation of bids; and

(f) how the matters stand at present?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI SUKH RAM): (a) Yes Sir. Fresh Financial Bids are being invited in Thirteen Service Areas.

(b) Details of the Thirteen Service Areas are given in the statement. *(See* below).

Out of the Thirteen Service Areas, fresh Financial Bids are being invited in 8 Circles on account of the original bids not having been found acceptable. Other five Service Areas have been vacated by the HI bidder on account of the restriction of maximum of 3 Circles in category 'A' &